

We claim:

1. A method of receiving a media signal in a receiving device, comprising:

storing the media signal received by the receiving device, the media signal containing undesirable signal components;

selecting a first search key in the media signal; searching for a second search key that is substantially identical to the first search key;

comparing first segments of the media signal occurring before and after an occurrence of the first search key with second segments occurring before and after an occurrence of the second search key; and

identifying first common segments between the first segments and the second segments.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises searching for a third search key that is substantially identical to the first search key;

comparing third segments of the media signal occurring before and after an occurrence of the third search key with the first segments and second segments and;

identifying second common segments between the first segments and the third segments or third common segments between the second segments and the third segments.

3. The method according to claim 2 wherein the method further comprises linking first common segments to the second common segments to form a media signal segment.

5 4. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the step of manually activating the device by using a first activation member.

10 5. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the step of automatically activating the device.

15 6. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises the step of creating a first and second search key;

storing the first and second search key; and
searching with the first and second search keys.

20 7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises calculating a similarity factor between the second search key and the first search key.

8. The method according to claim 1 wherein the device uses every (n)th sample of the media signal when constructing a sample search key and;

5 using the same every (n)th sample of the media signal while searching with the sample search key; and providing parameter (n) with a value equal to or greater than 1.

10 9. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises normalizing signal gain of the media signal.

15 10. The method according to claim 2 wherein the method further comprises selecting a longest signal segment of the first common segment, of the second common segment and of the third common segment.

20 11. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises making several copies of the media signal or several representations of the media signal and storing the copies or the representations of the media signal.

25 12. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises counting a number of times an identified common segment is received.

13. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises counting a number of times a second search key is substantially identical to the first search key.

5 14. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises producing a first list of common segments.

10 15. The method according to claim 14 wherein the method further comprises identifying undesirable common segments by activating a second activation member on the devise and saving the undesirable common segments in a second list.

15 16. The method according to claim 14 wherein the method further comprises selecting common segments that are shorter than a predetermined time period and saving the shorter common segments in a third list.

20 17. The method according to claim 16 wherein the method further comprises excluding the common segments in the third list from the first list.

18. The method according to claim 15 wherein the method further comprises excluding the common segments in the second list from the first list.

5 19. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method comprises selecting common segments that are longer than a first predetermined time period and excluding the selected common segments that are longer than a second predetermined time period from the first list.

10 20. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises comparing the first signal strength at the input of the receiving devise at the time period when the first common segments are received with the second signal strength at the input of the receiving devise at the time period when the second segments are received; and selecting the first segment when the first signal strength is greater than the second signal strength and selecting the second segment when the second signal strength is greater than the first signal strength.

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21. The method according to claim 2 wherein the method further comprises determining a first similarity between the first and second segments in the first common segment, determining a second similarity between the second segments and the third segments in the second common segment; and

10 selecting the first common segment when the first similarity shows a higher degree of similarity compared to the second similarity and selecting the second common segment when the second similarity shows a higher degree of similarity compared to the first similarity.

15 22. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises producing a forth list of common segments based on how often the common segments have been identified over a predetermined time period.

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23. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises producing a fifth list of common segments based on how long since the common segments were last identified.

24. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises changing media channel when a predetermined time has past and no new common segments have been identified.

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25. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises changing the media channel when a predetermined time has passed since the receiving device last changed media channel.

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26. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises changing the media channel when a specific number of new common segments are identified.

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27. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises searching for a plurality of search keys that are substantially identical to the first search key; and identifying fourth signal segments that are substantially identical to a signal segment from which the first search key was selected.

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28. The method according to claim 1 wherein the method further comprises normalizing a signal gain of the media signal where the normalization factor is derived from a sum of absolute values of samples in a selected section.

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